



Kin Canada

**Kinsmen Club
of Ladysmith**

Value - \$240,000

Hours - 3200

Value to the community

Priceless

2013 Service Award Submission



*Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground,
District Five, Ladysmith, B.C.*

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



What brought it all about

Tuesday, October 27, 2009 Page 3

The Chronicle — Since 1908

www.ladysmithchronicle.com

news

Playground considered unsafe

The playground at Kinsmen Park in Ladysmith is going to be demolished

Allison Vail
THE CHRONICLE

The playground at Kinsmen Park has to be ripped out and dismantled because of safety issues.

The park's wood is rotting and there are now problems with the structural integrity of the park, which was built 14 years ago by the Kinsmen, a volunteer organization.

Orange snow fence surrounds the park, and one of the picnic tables. Holes in the wood are visible, as are newer portions of wood where the town replaced planks or boards.

Patrick Durban, director of parks, said the worst parts of the playground have already been removed.

Town council decided on Monday (Oct. 19) to meet with the Kinsmen before taking the playground down. The met, and now plans are moving ahead.

"It has unfortunately become very urgent that we deal with this," Durban said at the council meeting. "It's become a safety issue that we have to deal with."

The Kinsmen have to adjust to the removal of what Duck Paterson, in his role as a Kinsmen, not a councillor, calls "their baby."

"For someone to come and say we're going to take it [out], it hurts," Paterson said. "That playground ... there's nothing like it anywhere else around. The Kinsmen built it from the ground up."

Town staff has done its best over the years to remove damaged or rotten pieces and replace them.

But Durban said there is a structural issue now and there is rot in the beams and joints.

"You can push your finger through some of these beams," he said. "We've already removed some sections."

"We just need to eliminate the risk."

At the council meeting, Hutchins said this is the third Kinsmen playground the town has had to remove. Two earlier parks were removed from locations around Ladysmith. The current play-



Kinsmen Kidland II is surrounded by orange fencing to keep people off the playground, which city staff say is unsafe and rotten.

ground was built with pressure treated wood and has lasted longer than the other two playgrounds.

"It last longer than the other two put together," Hutchins said.

The playground is a highlight. The Boys and Girls Club from Nanaimo comes to play on it in the summer.

"It's a huge, huge attraction," Hutchins said. "We do have a challenge to replace it."

Durban said the playground would cost \$200,000 to \$300,000 to replace and he has already asked staff to investigate playground grants.

New playground regulations have been established since the Kinsmen built the popular site 14 years ago. New playgrounds can't even be built on pea gravel, because of accessibility issues for children with physical disabilities.

On Friday, Durban said staff would talk on Oct. 26 about how to remove the playground and it would probably take three to four days.

"We'll have to probably remove some of the gravel," Durban added.

Paterson said the Kinsmen never thought the park would rot because they used pressure treated wood and stained it every two years.

"It never entered our minds that gradually the weather would take hold," Paterson said.

Paterson said there are some feelings among some Kinsmen members that the town did not take care of the playground as well as it should have.

"I honestly believe the town tried very hard," Paterson said. "The town has to protect the community. We understand that."

He said he doesn't know if anything more could have been done to save the playground.

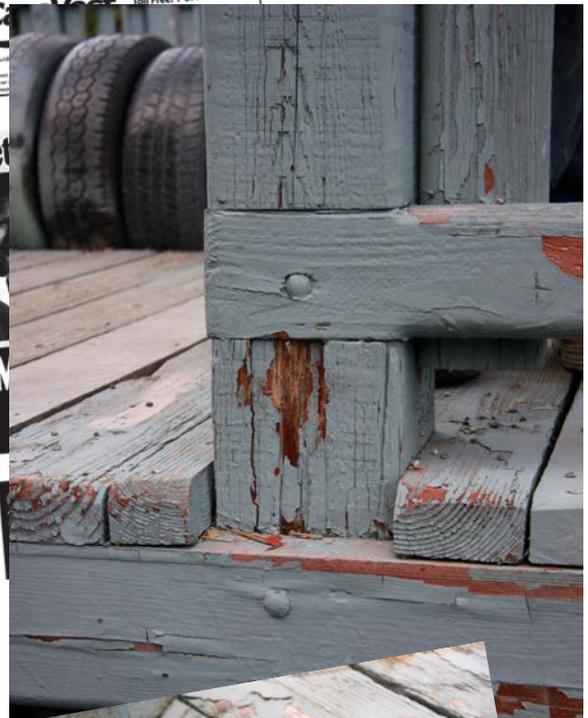
"The bottom line is it's got to come down," Paterson said.

He said he hopes the town and the Kinsmen and other community groups can work together to build a new program.

"I think there's a lot of respect for the club," Paterson said. "We're going to need help."



The original Kinsmen Playground that the Ladysmith Kinsmen built in 1995.



Above is the article from the October 27, 2009 Ladysmith Chronicle explaining about the need to remove the original playground.



These pictures show some of the rot in the structural area in the original Kinsmen Playground at Kin Park.

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



Our response to the community's need

When the Town of Ladysmith informed us that they had to take down the Kinsmen Playground at Kin Park/Brown Dr. it was more disappointment than it was surprise. Not only had our club built the playground back in 1995 but we had designed it as well. We had done all the fundraising, scrounging of materials and labour and all the other legwork to make it happen. The playground had become very popular and needed.

The north end of Ladysmith would have NO playground area for children or families to go to! Children now a days do not get enough exercise or opportunity to use their imaginations in a productive environment. It gave families a place to have time outdoors together.

When we made the decision to rebuild a new playground at Kin Park we realized that times and rules had changed. Projects now had to be "child proof". They had to be designed so that the liability risks were minimized. No longer were we able to "go out and build a playground", we had to get

partners.

Our club is very fortunate in that we have great rapport with the Town of Ladysmith. Over the years the projects we have done have been very successful and the Town knew that if Kinsmen said they were going to do something... it would be done and done well!

Projects such as playgrounds also cost big dollars! We knew that and the days of bottle drives, walk-a-thons, etc, to raise the amount of money needed to build such structures were over. We needed partners. Our club went out to the community and they saw that there was a need for a new playground and many answered the call.

The responses we started to get really added to the momentum we already had. The Town put money in their budget as well we had received confirmation of a grant from the Province of BC. We went on a letter writing campaign and that not only brought more dollars but was instrumental in increasing the awareness.

Other groups also recognized the need and were quick to help out the Kinsmen. The local Fraternal Order of Eagles as well as Branch 171 of the Legion got involved. The Chamber of Commerce also supported the project as well as a grant from the Nanaimo Foundation and the Co-Op.

The local Credit Union also saw the benefits of children and family activities, and like they do with almost every community project, they contributed \$10,000.

The pastor from the Oceanview Community Church also approached us and they wanted to become part of the playground. This has turned into a very great partnership and not only did they do their own fundraising for the playground, they also turned out for all the workparties and fundraisers.

For each phase we had many volunteers from different organizations. It might have the Kinsmen name on it, but the playground was truly a community effort.

INSPIRATION

Kinsmen Club + Community = One BIG Success Story

by LIFE MEMBER KIN DUCK PATERSON
Project Chair, Ladysmith Kinsmen Club

It's amazing what can be done when a need is brought to peoples' attention and a strong group takes leadership.

When the Ladysmith, BC, Kinsmen rallied to rebuild the Kin Park Adventure Playground in our town, we took many courses of action to make it happen and witnessed amazing support from the entire community.

In the spring of 2010, the Town of Ladysmith had to dismantle the adventure playground our Kinsmen club built 15 years prior due to structural damage.

We decided to rebuild a new playground because it was the only spot where kids could actively "be" and, with the increasing concern over child obesity and lack of exercise, we figured we had to do something.

Some of the area mothers wanted to contribute, so a Kin Park Adventure Playground committee was formed. It didn't take long for everyone to get into high gear.

A Professional Partner

The club contacted Henderson Playground Equipment and supplied them with the specs of the former playground. Working with the committee, Henderson came up with a three-phased plan to get the playground rebuilt. In total, the cost was over \$225,000, with Phase 1 being almost \$80,000.

Municipal Support

The committee first approached the town to inform them of our plans. Town council was very enthusiastic and eventually pledged half of the Phase 1 budget.

Extensive Media Coverage

The Ladysmith Chemainus Chronicle was contacted with the

playground plans and they provided very good coverage throughout the project. The committee kept them informed of what we were doing, the various fundraising activities and who was helping. The Chronicle published numerous and ongoing articles to keep the community aware and up to date.

Partnering with other Community Groups

The pastor from Oceanview Community Church asked the club if they could help. He wanted to get his congregation involved in community events and he became known to us as the "Pastor Dude." At the church's Easter service, they held their own fundraiser and turned over a check for \$5,267.27!

Hosting a Fun Event

In June the committee decided to have a "Root Beer & Burgers" family event at the local Aggie Hall. We ordered burgers, buns and fixings for 250 people from the Forty-Ninth Parallel Grocery (who donated everything, much to our surprise). The local A&W donated prizes and their mascot made a guest appearance.

When the doors opened at 4 p.m., almost 150 people were lined up!!! What started off as a rainy day turned into a nice afternoon and the crowd ended up going outside and having a family picnic which was really cool. By 5 p.m., we ran out of food and had to run back to the 49th Parallel to get more... which they supplied with no problem.

We had face painters, balloon sculptors, games for kids and other fun activities. The Pastor Dude and members of his congregation basically took over the kitchen and Pastor Dude himself barbecued all the hot dogs. It was a HUGE family fun time and a great success.

Diversifying with a Garage Sale

In September, the committee hosted a giant garage sale in partnership with the Festival of Lights committee. Our phone rang off the wall with folks wanting to donate items. The sale was so large that we had to set up the day before and we used not only the Festival of Lights building but their parking lot and the parking lot for the cemetery as well.

Once 8 a.m. arrived... it was bedlam! Huge crowds continued almost all day. We were fortunate that members of the Festival of Lights also helped. Everybody walked away with their bargains and we walked into the local credit union with over \$2,800.

Public Appeal Campaign

A letter writing campaign appealed to all area organizations, businesses and individuals. The letters explained the project, what it was about and what we needed... which was basically money. The support was amazing. Many, many donations came in. Kids organized cookie and lemonade stands and one group of little girls raised \$165 in less than four hours near the park.

The Ladysmith & District Credit Union, which backs virtually every activity in town, came forward with \$10,000. The local Tim Hortons donated \$2,000 plus all the coffee, etc. for our work parties. Even companies that do work for the Town came on board with donations.



Ladysmith Kinsmen Club, members of Ladysmith Parks Dept. and other volunteers stand on the completed adventure playground of Phase 1. The cleared area behind Phase 1 is where the Kinsmen Club will build Phases 2 and 3.

More Root Beer & Burgers

In November, the committee decided to host a second root beer and burger event with a twist. We screened the children's movie, "How To Train Your Dragon." Once again, Forty-ninth Parallel grocery and the folks from Oceanview Church stepped forward to ensure we held another winner.

Timely Municipal Support

The Town informed us that they had budgeted half the cost of Phase 1 in their 2011 budget!!!! We were on our way. We placed the equipment order with Henderson Playgrounds and requested a March completion date.

An Oversight Garners More Local Support

March rolled around and we realized the site needed preparation. There were a few things we had forgotten. Dave Stalker Excavating, who supports everything the Kinsmen club does, offered to donate all the site prep, including drainage.

Lealand Contracting heard about the project and offered to donate the form work for retaining walls, sidewalks and whatever else necessary! Jerry Lealand, at his expense, put an entire crew on the project for almost a week to make sure we were ready for when the playground equipment arrived.

Time to Build!

On Friday, March 11, 2011 (almost a year to the day that the old playground came down), the new playground equipment arrived in Ladysmith. We were really excited, except it was probably the worst weather we had experienced in many, many years. The weekend was calling for more rain with high winds to boot but we were committed.

Saturday, March 12 was the big work party, come hell or high water. We were off and running with over 20 members of the Oceanview Community Church, the Ladysmith Kinsmen and quite a few community volunteers, including Mayor Rob Hutchins (who spent two days working with us).

Two representatives from Henderson Playground Equipment were on hand and Lealand Contracting supplied four workers to dig holes. Groups were formed to build the various playground structures so they would be ready for installation.

A BBQ lunch was set up at one of the neighbour's houses. Kinsmen club president Rod Saunders brought all the fixings and ladies from Oceanview Church did all the prep and cooked. In spite of the rain and wind (and cold for out here on the west coast) everybody had fun.

It seemed like a long day, but at the end of it we could really see our accomplishment — almost half the park was completed!

Phase 1: Mission Accomplished

Sunday, March 13 had a few less volunteers but, with most of the prep work done, it really didn't matter. At 9 a.m. we were off and running again... well, maybe "off and slogging again" is more apt because the area had turned into a huge mud pie. By the end of the day, we knew we had it licked. The playground was done except for impact ground cover and cementing the posts.

Finally, on Thursday, March 17, we watched as a whole pile of kids started running, playing and doing what kids are supposed to do! The playground was done as a community project spearheaded by the Ladysmith Kinsmen Club.

Kin and Community

Despite horrible, horrible weather and working in the mud and wind, we built the first part of a new playground for kids. This is what Kinsmen do. This is fun, fellowship and helping to make everybody smile. We had many, many volunteers and super support from the entire Ladysmith Community.

Our club cannot say enough about how Ladysmith comes together and works with us whenever we take on a project and, because of that, they are always a huge success. ■

The Ladysmith Kinsmen continue to fundraise and are working on Phases 2 and 3 of the park.

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



... and what we wanted to achieve!

Approx cost \$179,434 +tx

and does not include ground cover ... \$14,853

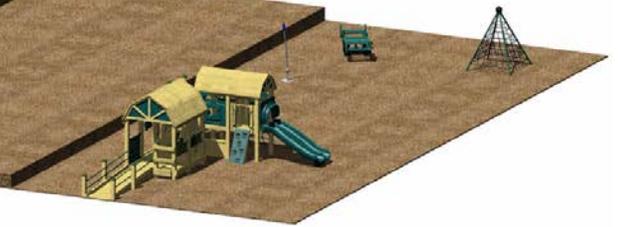
Model No. 15613-1 3D



Phase 1 - \$68,898 +tx
ages 5 to 12



Phase 2 - \$54,921 +tx
ages 5 to 12



Phase 3 - \$55,615 +tx
ages 2 to 5

The initial design, as submitted by Henderson Recreation. This plan was presented to the Town of Ladysmith in the 2010. It was later changed to make phase 3 phase 2 and phase 2 phase 3. This was done so that the younger children had something to play on sooner.

Henderson BRITISH COLUMBIA OFFICE
Suite 255 - 2506 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V6K 2C3

Quotation - Supply - Playwood Option

To: Mr. Don Patterson
Ladysmith Kinsmen Club
Ladysmith, B.C.

Date: July 14, 2010

Greetings Duck

In response to the recent request for proposal, we respectfully submit our quotation for the play structures and equipment described herein.

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
Supply and Delivery of Playwood model #15613R1 - Senior Section (top site)	66,098.98
Installation Supervision - 3 days of Installation Supervision / Instruction	2,800.00
Sub-Total	68,898.98
HST:	8,247.85
GRAND TOTAL:	77,146.86

This play equipment has been designed to comply with CANCSA-2614-07

Henderson BRITISH COLUMBIA OFFICE
Suite 255 - 2506 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V6K 2C3

Phase 3 - Tot play Area

To: Mr. Don Patterson
Ladysmith Kinsmen Club
Ladysmith, B.C.

Date: August 20, 2010

Greetings Duck

In response to the recent request for proposal, we respectfully submit our quotation for the play structures and equipment described herein.

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
Supply and Delivery of Henderson Tot Structure model # PW15613R0	35,537.00
Installation Supervision - 3 days of Installation Supervision / Instruction	2,800.00
Supply and Delivery of Henderson Single Seat Motion Toy	1,055.20
Supply and Delivery of UDB Callalot	5,510.00
Supply and Delivery of Henderson Mr. Fishy Multi spring see saw	5,452.00
Supply and Delivery of Belfire Wigwam climbing net	5,261.00
Sub-Total	55,616.20
HST:	6,873.62
GRAND TOTAL:	62,289.82

This play equipment has been designed to comply with CANCSA-2614-07

Henderson BRITISH COLUMBIA OFFICE
Suite 255 - 2506 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V6K 2C3

Phase 2 - Climbing and Balancing area

To: Mr. Don Patterson
Ladysmith Kinsmen Club
Ladysmith, B.C.

Date: August 20, 2010

Greetings Duck

In response to the recent request for proposal, we respectfully submit our quotation for the play structures and equipment described herein.

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
Supply and Delivery of Berline Neptune Climbing net	24,589.00
Installation Supervision - 3 days of Installation Supervision / Instruction	2,800.00
Supply and Delivery of Henderson Orbis - Aurora Borealis	9,682.10
Supply and Delivery of QTY x 2 - Xoom! Shells System	2,442.00
Supply and Delivery of QTY x 2 - Xoom! X weaves	15,128.00
Sub-Total	54,921.10
HST:	6,586.83
GRAND TOTAL:	61,917.93

This play equipment has been designed to comply with CANCSA-2614-07

Freight included
Proposed equipment installation will be in accordance with CANCSA-2614-07
Quotation valid with purchase of all items listed above.
Quotation does not include the costs of full installation, site Preparation, Surfacing, Border, Landscaping.
Quotation valid for 60 Days
Terms 30 days

Your Consideration of our quotation is appreciated and we look forward to your response

Sincerely
Adam Walsh - Playground Consultant
Henderson Recreation Equipment Ltd. British Columbia
Contact: 1-800-265-5462 ext. 302
Cell: 778-228-6295
Fax: 604-224-7276
Email: awalsh@henderson-recreation.com

Freight included
Proposed equipment installation will be in accordance with CANCSA-2614-07
Quotation valid with purchase of all items listed above.
Quotation does not include the costs of full installation, site Preparation, Surfacing, Border, Landscaping.
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Email: awalsh@henderson-recreation.com

Knowing that there was no way, even with the huge support from the community, could build this all at once... we decided to split the project into three phases. A much easier pill to swallow, and if we could not do it all... then at least there would be something.

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



Community support became apparent



Once we knew we were doing it... the support from the community was tremendous!

Dave Stalker Excavating came to us and offered anything we needed that they could do. We took them up on their offer and got them to do all the removal of the old playground and the site prep for the new structures.

This actually involved a few trips, hauling equipment, back to the site for Stalker.

Coastal Trucking contributed all the trucking to take out all the old gravel ground cover and bring in new fill.

Many businesses came to us and offered help.

Jerry Lealand, from Lealand Contracting came forward and WANTED to be part of the project. He offered us a crew to build the retaining walls for the new playground.

Working in the dirt in November and December, on the west coast, is not the most enjoyable task, but his crews worked very hard for us. Along with site prep he also supplied equipment and crews when we were actually doing the playground construction phases.



Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



... and then came the fundraising!



Event: Rootbeer and Burger
Family Fun Time

When: Sunday, June 27
4:00 - 7:00pm

Where: Aggie Hall

WHY: To Raise Funds for the
Kin Park / Brown Drive
Adventure Playground

Cost: \$2.50 per person

Join us for burgers, hotdogs and refreshments.
There will be free balloons, face painting.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Our very first fundraiser was a success! On the left is the flyer that all the local merchants handed out for us. The top picture shows a volunteer making animal balloons and below that is a picture of the lady face painting and children colouring. The picture below shows families lined up to get their tickets for burgers.

Our first 'real' fundraiser was held on Sun., June 27, 2010. It really caught us off guard!!! We thought we would have about 100 people but when we opened the doors, at 4 pm, there was over 150 people waiting!!!! It was a huge success!!! The kids had a great time with balloons, face painting and as it turned out to be a beautiful day, many families had a picnic and enjoyed getting together. By the time we cleaned up we had served over 400 burgers!!!! We raised over \$2,000.00!



Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



In spite of the weather... we started!



We all anticipated the start! Above Kinsmen members as well as community volunteers get ready to start construction of phase one during spring break 2011



Members of the Oceanview Community Church and Kinsmen help erect the platform for the first structure in phase one.



It was a miserable day but that did not stop our club and over 30 community volunteers from coming out and getting phase one completed!



Members of the Ladysmith Festival of Lights help to put the finishing touches to a climbing ladder in phase one.

*Wow!!!! Phase One!!! ... and we did it in two days!
Shown here are some of the members of the Ladysmith
Kinsmen Club on the completion of phase one of the new
playground at Kin Park.*

It had actually happened! There had been times we weren't sure it could happen but when we saw the number of volunteers from the community come out...we knew that we could do it. It had been a miserable weekend but it did not stop the project from being completed!



Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



Community support is a must

This article was written for Kin Magazine in October 2011 by the Ladysmith Kinsmen Club. It is a continuation of the original article that ran in Kin Magazine in April 2011.

The weekend of July 8, 9 & 10, 2011 was another great success for the Ladysmith Kinsmen Club and their efforts in rebuilding the adventure playground at Kin Park in Ladysmith.

That weekend was the big work-party to construct Phase 2 of the \$250,000 project.

Compared to Phase One, which we did at spring break in March, this one was like heaven. For Phase One we had wind, rain and almost freezing temperatures, where for Phase 2 it was warm, sunny and WAHOO it was dry!!!

A little over a year ago, when the club first decided that we HAD to rebuild the playground at Kin Park, we had no idea that we would be this far along. We had hoped that we would be able to raise enough to have the first part done by this summer let alone have two-thirds of it done by the time summer began!!!

With the slow economy and having raised enough for Phase One, we were wondering how we could make the second phase happen.

We had applied for a gaming grant back in the fall of 2010 with little expectations of getting anything! There had been all sorts of "news" about the cut-backs, etc. Well, to our surprise in the mid-spring 2011 we received notice that we had been given a \$45,000 grant from the B.C. Gaming Commission to go towards the park. Wow, were we excited! We had almost \$8,000 left over from phase one and we did have a few commitments but we needed a cornerstone and that one did it. Once we knew about it we approached the Town of Ladysmith and they committed another \$10,000 as well as the Ladysmith & District Credit Union came onboard again.

The folks from the Oceanview Community Church once again approached us about doing some fundraising. The pastor dude from the church had an idea. Why not have a huge omelette cook-off on Father's Day ("Eggs Benefit"). They approached a local egg processing plant and they jumped at the idea. Island Gold Eggs was so excited, they said not only could we have all the eggs we wanted, they would supply staff to help put it together as well as work on the day.



We were happy when we did phase two, the weather was so much better than a couple of months earlier when we started on phase one. In this picture a couple of the neighbours are helping to finish the "barn" in phase two.

We approached local businesses and everybody thought it was a unique idea and we were off. It's not an omelette without mushrooms and Max's Mushrooms, from Port Alberni, offered to give us 50 lbs of mushrooms free... in fact they even sliced them for us. 50 lbs of sliced mushrooms is a hell of a lot of mushrooms. Island Farms Dairy donated the milk and cream and Paradise Island Foods donated 75 lbs of grated cheese. Ladysmith's Mayor, Rob Hutchins, donated all the peppers and the ham by Bouma Meats, the local butcher, donated all the ham. He even diced it for us. It was

Talking Strategy

Brantford and Ladysmith Kinsmen

These clubs mix partnering, research, grant writing and sweat equity to maximize their impact

BY KAREN PLOWY

"As an organization, if we want to continue to make our communities better and fun... we need to have the support of the entire community. To get there, we need to show that we can do projects that are a benefit to everybody; but on top of that, we need to make sure we recognize those who help us. The bottom line is that we won't be able to do these projects without their support."

Don 'Duck' Paterson
Ladysmith Kinsmen

As they say, "it takes a village to raise a child" and the same could be said for hosting a major event or building a sizeable community project. In this day and age when countless groups are competing for support (moral and financial), volunteers and attention, it takes time, effort and some savvy smarts to pull it together and make it a success.

The Brantford, Ont. and Ladysmith, B.C. Kinsmen leverage their great reputations in the community and past successes to attract partners, donors, volunteers and money for their future projects.

The Brantford Kinsmen Ribfest held their first annual event in August 2010

and attracted about 4,000 people. This past August, the number of rib lovers swelled to over 22,000. Tom Sevier and Doug Linn, Ribfest co-chairs credit this phenomenal success to the club's 70-year history, mentoring by other Ribfest organizers, lots of research, the City of Brantford and partners such as the local media.

Similarly, the Ladysmith Kinsmen are relying on the support of community businesses, local dignitaries, church volunteers and the Town of Ladysmith to rebuild the \$250,000 adventure playground at Kin Park.

Phase 1 of the playground was featured in the April 2011 online issue of KIN Magazine and Phase 2 was completed this summer. Above and beyond wet and windy weather conditions that can slow things down, the costs really add up when supplies need to be ferried to the island.

As business people heard that Phase 2 was underway, a local trucking company offered to go to the mainland and pick up the goods. A local concrete company was there, again, to donate cement and a local contracting company loaned both their equipment and a crew of four to help the building effort.

"It sure makes the job easier when you have a few professionals working with the volunteers," says Paterson.

Before 2010, the Brantford Kinsmen had never organized a Ribfest and several had never even been to one. Sevier and

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Ladysmith Kinsmen - 8

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



Linn went to a few Ribfests in southern Ontario and connected with the service groups who organized them.

"The Rotarians in Uxbridge were particularly helpful," Sevier reports. "They gave us tips on what to do and pitfalls to avoid," says Linn.

Sevier ran a one-man Ribfest research department and scoured the internet for information on all the Ribfests in North America. "Ribbers are a different breed," he concludes. "They make their money selling ribs but they're really in it for the 'Fig Ratings' and bragging rights. It's not like they get a big cash award; if they're lucky, they get a trophy."

Sevier and Linn started the local ball rolling by calling their contacts at the Brantford Parks and Recreation Department. Lori Dawn Cavin, Community Events Coordinator, worked with the co-chairs and suggested they combine the Ribfest with the Town Criers 2011 Provincial Championship competition.

"At first it seemed like an odd combination," says Sevier, "but it brought out a lot of people during the day — people who might not have attended a Ribfest."

David McKee, Brantford's official town crier, has won the provincial championship five times and had a second-place showing at the world competition in 2001. McKee and the crier competition did a lot of their own advertising and promoting which attracted both locals and visitors to the combined events. Cavin also suggested the Kinsmen apply for a Community Foundation Grant

which got them an additional \$10,000. They combined the grant with the \$2,000 profit from Ribfest 2010 with the sole goal of making the second annual event bigger and better.

The Kinsmen rented roadside signage and purchased a banner to span Wayne Gretzky Parkway, a major Brantford artery. They hired area musicians to play at the event which not only entertained the



crowds but also attracted their loyal fans. The park grounds also boasted a midway and Kid's Zone for children and other food and commercial vendors.

In Ladysmith, the partnership of "The Pastor Dude" (Darin Phillips) and his Oceanview Community Church

congregation translated into a whole lot of fun, fellowship and fundraising. This year, the pastor approached the Kinsmen with the idea of holding an "Eggs Benefit" omelette cook-off on Father's Day.

The church did all the organizing and getting eggs donated from Island Gold Eggs, mushrooms from Max's Mushrooms, milk and cream from Island Farms Dairy and 75 pounds of grated cheese from Paradise Island Foods. The Pastor rallied many local dignitaries, government and business people to cook the omelettes. Over \$4,500 was raised in one morning. The Kinsmen had applied for B.C. Gaming Commission Grant in the fall of 2010 and, to their surprise, they received notice in mid-spring 2011 that they were getting \$45,000.

"Once we knew about the grant, we approached the Town of Ladysmith who committed another \$10,000 and the Ladysmith and District Credit Union also got on board again," says Paterson. "I hope that I'll be able to report on the finished last phase of the Ladysmith Kin Playground in the early summer of 2012."

As for the Brantford Kinsmen, it's unlikely that they will almost sextuple attendance at Ribfest 2012 but they are still looking to make it bigger and better than ever. Stay tuned! ■

October 2011 KIN Magazine 15

(woodchip ground cover) was costing \$39.00 a cu. yard and we needed 130 cu. yds. As the truck could only take 100 yards at a time, we had to get two shipments which would cost \$1,700 each trip. Sure as hell doesn't take long for the "extras" to add up, but folks were starting to hear that we were able to get going and again the support started coming in.

A local trucking company (Ryler Trucking) stepped forward and offered to go to the mainland and transport the ground cover at their cost including the cost of the ferries. Also Mayco Concrete was there, again, and told us just to call when we needed the cement for the footings and other apparatus... "we are donating it"!!!

This portion of the playground required a bit more "expertise" as a lot of it was stand alone playthings but they had to be positioned at the right heights and angles. Jerry Lealand, from Lealand Contracting, stepped forward and gave us all the equipment and a crew of 4 to help set it all up and start the construction. It sure makes the job easier when you have a few professionals working with volunteers.

This project has progressed faster than we had envisioned! The Ladysmith Kinsmen figure we are almost a year ahead of where we thought we would be at this time and are dam proud of it. Projects like this, though, do not happen without community support and we are thankful for it. Many, many businesses, organizations and individuals know what Kinsmen is all about and what they do and it shows, especially when we do these types of projects. Kin can get things done... but it does take time and a fair amount of effort to make these things

happen.

We decided that after Phase 2 we would take the summer off.. well not really as we are also working with the local First Nation (St'z'uminus) youth ball hockey team on rebuilding their outdoor arena.

... BUT we still have one more phase to go on the playground at Kin Park. Phase There is another big dollar item... \$63,000. This phase is for the older (6 to 13) kids and is more unique. More climbing and moving apparatus... and we are again going to have to go back out to the community for support. Our goal is to (hopefully) have this final phase finished off by the beginning of summer 2012! It's going to be interesting and tough because there is only so much money around, especially in small towns, but we'll try.

As an organization if we want to continue to make our communities better and fun, with projects like this, we need to have the support of the entire community. To get there we need to show that we can do projects that are a benefit to everybody... but on top of it make sure we recognize those who help us.... the bottom line is that we won't be able to do those projects without their support.



Even though it's ground up wood, the ground cover was very expensive. Almost \$39 a yard. We were fortunate that Ryler Trucking donated all the transportation costs to get the Fibar and bring it to us including the cost of the ferries from the mainland. The Town donated equipment and operators to spread it.

Above and on previous page are two pages copied from Kin Magazine that incorporated the article the club had submitted on the completion of phase two of the playground project.

continued from previous page

really coming together and all the prep work we thought we would have was being done for us.

The pastor dude (Darin Phillips) approached many locals to help us cook the omelettes. We had the high school principal, the RCMP Staff Sgt., the fire chief, the mayor, the director of Parks & Rec, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, the Kin President (Kin Diesel) and many other local "celebrities"!!! It was a huge pile of fun. The event was held in the Oceanview Community Church parking lot and the weather was great and it was by donation only. I could go on, but the final outcome was that we raised over \$4,500!!!! Huge success and a great family event.

Although the "playground" portion of Phase 2 was costing \$58,000 (+tax) there were other items that we also had to cover such as the ground cover and the transportation of it over to the island. The FiBar

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



Phase 2 was quick to follow!



Some of the neighbours and Kin drilling the holes for the Jeep 4x4 in phase two.

Phase two was a bit of a breeze. The structure was smaller than the first but what really made it nice was the weather! Phase one we had typical “west coast torrential” rain the entire time, but for phase 2 it was beautiful.



The Tot Structure, above, taking shape. The structures and equipment supplied by Henderson Playground Equipment was fairly easy to put together ... when following the instructions.



The Tot Structure really taking shape with the help from neighbours and members of Ladysmith Council!



Phase two was designed for the younger “players” in the new playground. It has more “hands on” equipment that moves and bounces.

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.

... and more fun fundraising!



Family Fun

Event: Burger, Beverage & Movie
Movie & Family Fun Time

When: Sunday, November 14th
4:00 - 8:30pm

Where: Aggie Hall

WHY: To Raise Funds for the
Kin Park / Brown Drive
Adventure Playground

Cost: \$5.00 per person
Join us for burgers, hotdogs, popcorn and a family movie.
There will be free balloons, face painting, fish pond & more!
WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Watch 'How To Train Your Dragon'

PRIZES & SURPRISES & POPCORN



The kids really enjoyed the stuffed animal toss at the Movie and Family Fun Time fundraiser.



The Movie and Family Fun Time fundraiser was hugely successful! One of the things our club discovered in doing these types of events was... we might not have raised HUGE dollars but the fun that children and moms and dads had was great. It actually generated interest in the club just by us being there and putting on events that were family oriented.



The Ladysmith Ambassadors were on hand to help with the fundraiser and to also "babysit" some of the sponsors mascots.



Face painting was fun and we had artists donate their time to help make it a success!



This picture shows part of the crowd that enjoyed the Movie and Family Fun Time fundraiser. The children got to sit up front on the mats and mom and dad had the hard plastic seats!

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



... and then even more fundraising!

This one was amazing!!! It was one of the most fun things we had done in years.

Once again the folks (and Pastor Dude) from the Oceanview Community Church asked if they could help. They really believed that the entire project could be built.

In early 2011 Pastor Dude came up with the idea to have an “eggs benefit” with all funds going to the new playground. He lined up the folks from Island Eggs and they jumped at it. As many eggs as we wanted they would supply. The plan was to get as many “local” celebrity chefs as possible and folks could get their omelette cooked by the chef of their choice. We had over 20 chefs including the mayor, the high school principal, the RCMP Staff Sgt., fire chief and many, many others. It was a hoot.

ALL of the ingredients were donated and it was held in the parking lot of the Oceanview Church. The church, in fact, even postponed their normal service until the Sunday evening.

It was the biggest success and when all the egg shells had settled we had raised over \$4,800!! All from donations.



Top left picture shows project chair, Kin Duck Paterson, with the “Pastor Dude” Darrin Phillips (in shorts) making the announcement of the amazing total. Pictured to the right is one of the many line-ups of eager customers. Bottom left picture shows the team of “egg crackers” in the kitchen and bottom right more of the celebrity chefs.



Kin president, Rod Saunders, cooks omelettes, beside Mayor Rob Hutchins and Parks & Rec member Denny Forrest. Just 3 of over 20 celebrity chefs that helped make this event a huge success!

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



... and different fundraising ideas

On the left is a copy of the poster we made to launch our last fundraiser. One of the mothers, on the committee, came up with the idea that we might be able to capitalize on the decision to quit making pennies.

The final fundraiser was probably the “most eye catching” and one that we got a HUGE response from.

During this whole project we also had help from a “committee”. A few mothers from around the park area also wanted to see a new playground built as soon as possible. They said that when we did fundraising, etc they wanted to help. They were huge in getting the garage sale organized as well as supplying helpers for the Root Beer event and the Movie Night fundraiser.

When one of them heard of the “demise” of the penny she came forward with the idea of a “penny drive”! This went over well.

The three local schools organized events and classroom competitions. One of the schools parents committee even came up with the idea of having a “copper mining day” and all the students dressed as miners and “mined” for pennies. This was held at Kin Park where the playground was being built.

We had seniors calling and asking us to pickup their pennies. There were also collection cans placed in businesses and to top it off the Ladysmith and District Credit Union was forced to buy a “coin counter” as they could not keep up with the response just from people walking in with baggies of pennies.

The Government Doesn't Want PENNIES

The Final Phase

but the Brown Drive Kin Park PLAYGROUND DOES

If you have pennies just lying around or sitting in a jar, the government doesn't want them anymore BUT we know what they can be used for.

The Kinsmen are very close (only \$3,000 to go!!!) to the fundraising total for Phase III which is the final phase of the Brown Drive/Kin Park playground! They can be deposited into the “Kinsmen Playground account” at the Ladysmith & District Credit Union or call 250-245-2263 or 250-619-3112 for pickup

This fundraiser is actually still going on. There are still some things the club would like to do at the playground such as lights and sprinklers and the committee and Kinsmen felt that we might be able to accomplish these “cosmetic” items.

As well, the adventure playground, the Kinsmen built, at Transfer Beach 20 years ago is seeing some pretty heavy duty wear and tear. If we continue this fundraiser it will give the club a good nest egg to start off with when we tackle that one in a couple of years!

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



... and we finally made it! Phase 3!



Pictured on the left are members putting the Berliner Neptune Climbing Net together. If you look just to the right of that behind the Xwave is the mayor of Ladysmith helping to level the Fibar ground cover.

Pictured below are members and neighbours working on the final touches of phase three.

July 6th and 7th, 2012 was the weekend we constructed the final phase... Phase 3!!! *This was even a surprise to us!* We honestly weren't sure we would even make it this far, but we did. The support from the community really made it all happen.



Phase three had the most challenging structures. It is meant for the older kids. Here Kinsmen and neighbours are trying to figure out how the Xccent X Waves go together!



Pictured here are members of the Kinsmen Club starting to erect the scaffolding that will be used to finish the Berliner Neptune climbing net.

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



Now we let the world know!!!
and **THANK** everybody!!!

You Are Invited To The **GRAND OPENING** of the new **Kinsmen Playground**



We had finally done it and we needed to let the world know. Projects such as this, especially in small towns, are few and far between.

When we can get a whole pile of volunteers together along with the business community and other clubs it is something to brag about.

Through the efforts of the Ladysmith Kinsmen Club and HUGE help from the community... the children and families of Ladysmith were going to receive a brand new playground valued at over \$240,000. Not just in dollars but there was over 3,200 hours of time spent by volunteers. A fair amount of that time was in very miserable wet, cold weather, but when the dust (mud)settled.... **WE HAD FUN!**

At the very start, our members were disheartened by the fact that the Town was demolishing one of the icons of our club. Something that the community knew us by!.... but when it all settled we had done even better... not only did we have a new and bigger park, but it was safer, had more activities, but it had a warranty and would last for many, many years.

The members of the Ladysmith Kinsmen Club wish to thank the community for the fantastic support on this amazing project. It has been a lot of fun, but it would not have happened without the generous support of the people, businesses and organizations of Ladysmith and area. In two years our community has raised over \$230,000.00 to make sure that the children (of all ages) have an amazing place to play and have fun.

The Kinsmen wish to thank the following for their help in making the playground happen...

- The Town of Ladysmith
- B.C. Gaming Commission
- Jerry Lealand Contracting
- Oceanview Community Church
- Ladysmith & District Credit Union
- Dave Stalker Excavating
- Coastal Trucking
- The Nanaimo Foundation
- Howie and Colleen Davis
- Mayco Concrete
- Rona Building Supply
- Native Daughters Post #7
- Telus
- Brian Marshall
- Pharmasave Downtown Ladysmith
- Tim Mitton Big O Tire
- Rocky Creek Homes
- Timberwest
- Ron and Doreen Delcourt
- Dayton and Knight Ltd.
- The Harder Foundation
- Festival of Lights
- The Ladysmith Chemainus Chronicle
- Ladysmith Eagles Aerie 2101
- Eagles Ladies Auxiliary
- R.C. Legion Branch 171
- Ladysmith Legion Ladies Auxiliary
- Forty-Ninth Parallel Grocery
- Ladysmith Public Works Crew
- Ladysmith Fire & Rescue
- Henderson Playground Equipment
- Slegg Lumber and Building Supply
- Jan Christensen
- Yellow Point Lodge
- P.P.W.C, Local 2 - Crofton
- Bastion Law Group
- Wally Churchill
- Tim Hortons
- Forplag Logging & Marine
- Ladysmith Primary PAC
- Ladysmith Intermediate School
- Old Town Bakery
- Island Savings Credit Union
- Ladysmith Animal Hospital
- Atchison Palmer Co. Ltd.
- Dr. Jim Guild (High St. Dental)
- Vision Arts Eye Care
- V.I. Parents for Montessori
- Terra North Inc.
- Ross & Melanie Davis
- Hillside Medical Centre
- John & Kathleen Potts
- Holiday House Motel
- Sierra and Brandy-Lin
- Mid-Island Co-op
- Darryl and Carol Turner
- Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce
- Dyno Nobel
- Muriel Carlson
- Hub City Paving
- Steve and Cathy Arnett
- Bill and Deb Drysdale
- Rollie and Juanita Holland
- all the PENNY DONATORS & rollers

and all others who helped to make it happen. If we missed you we APOLOGIZE, it was a big project!!!
...without community support from these and others, projects such as this wouldn't be able to happen in our community.
Please support local businesses and thank them for their generous support as they put back into the community for all of us.

... and THANK YOU to all the volunteers on the various fundraisers and projects!!!

Above is a copy of the advertising that the Ladysmith Kinsmen paid for to announce and invite the public to the Grand Opening of the new playground. We also wanted to acknowledge all who helped and to make sure that the community knew how and who made this huge project happen!



TOWN OF LADYSMITH

410 Esplanade, P.O. Box 220, Ladysmith, B.C. V9G 1A2
Municipal Hall (250) 245-6400 • Fax (250) 245-6411 • info@ladysmith.ca • www.ladysmith.ca

April 4, 2013

Our File: 0230-20

Kinsmen Club of Ladysmith
P.O. Box 324
Ladysmith, B.C. V9G 1A3

Attn: Duck Paterson

Dear Mr. Paterson:

RE: COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD SUBMISSION- KIN PARK/BROWN DRIVE PLAYGROUND

It gives me great pleasure, as Mayor of the Town of Ladysmith and on behalf of our entire community, to write this letter of support for the Kinsmen Club of Ladysmith submission for the Kinsmen Service Award.

When the Town was forced to tear down the popular Kin Park playground in Kin Park/Brown Drive Park because it was rotting and had become too dangerous, the community felt the loss greatly. It left the whole north end of our town with no playground structure for kids of any age. Ours is a community that believes strongly in being healthy and active right from birth - how were our children supposed to stay active, to play outside together, to minimize time on their computers and televisions, if the playground equipment was gone? For this segment of our community, a safe and fun playground was a great need.

The Kinsmen Club of Ladysmith stepped up to meet that need as they have done so many times for our community. They spearheaded fund raising efforts and inspired other groups to do their own fundraising, and over the course of three years, raised well over \$200,000 in the community for the new playground. But they did so much more than that. They set the pace for the volunteer work crews on several 'playground raising' days, they recruited volunteers from throughout the community to help, and they secured in-kind contributions of labour, equipment and supplies, and they engaged an entire community from large and small businesses, churches and schools to service clubs, community organizations and community members old and young.

Today, the Kin Park playground is bigger and better than it ever was. We are especially fortunate that the new version also includes an area designed especially for older children and their imaginations.

.../2

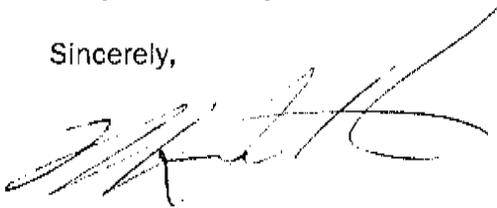
The playground is a shining legacy of the Ladysmith Kinsmen Club. But there is another, perhaps even more important legacy this remarkable group has given to our community: a stronger sense of community among all those who took part in the playground project. For example, fundraisers that started for the playground have now become annual events raising money for other worthy causes in Ladysmith. No matter how big or small their contribution to the project, those who took part are proud of what they built and ready to do more for their community in some way.

The playground is just one example of how the Kinsmen Club of Ladysmith has contributed to our community. There are so many others – organizing the annual Ladysmith Days Parade and the Festival of Lights Santa Claus Parade, annual drives for the Food Bank, construction of a facility to store all the lights and decorations for Ladysmith's huge annual Festival of Lights, donations of sports equipment for our youth, building a gazebo to mark the start of our much-loved Holland Creek Trail, repainting the massive adventure playground at Transfer Beach which they built over a decade ago, just to name a few.

Whether they are leading a project or working alongside other community members on someone else's project, you can always count on the Ladysmith Kinsmen Club. The Club deserves a lot of credit for helping to make our community the wonderful, caring and generous place that it is. Not only do they enhance the quality of life in our community – they provide a fine example of service, fellowship and positive values to fellow community members, and especially to our youth.

I trust I have been able to convey our community's gratitude to the Ladysmith Kinsmen Club. They are truly deserving of the Community Service Award and our whole community will be delighted to congratulate them when they win.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Hutchins', written in a cursive style.

Rob Hutchins
Mayor

April 6, 2013



To whom it may concern:

Re: Letter of support for Kinsmen Club of Ladysmith

Ladysmith Family and Friends (LaFF) is an accredited member of the Association of Family Resource Programs of BC serving families with 21 hours of programming and 204 hours of direct contact each week. LaFF provides a safe, inclusive, accessible, supportive environment where parents and caregivers of children 0 to 6 years old meet to promote the development of happy, healthy, and nurturing families through interactive play, as well as family related resources and programs. We currently serve 475 families and have logged over 16,000 visits in the past year in programming such as Morning's with LaFF, Family Frolics, SEWcial Night, LaFFternoons, LaFF Outside and numerous programs offered seasonally within the community.

Our LaFF Outside program connects children, families, youth, seniors and community members with local parks creating awareness and appreciation for nature and the environment. It reinforces the importance and fun of physical activity for the entire family and creates meaningful outdoor experiences that families may otherwise not have, serving as an outreach activity to an underserved population.

LaFF Outside began in 2011 at Brown Drive Park as an alternative to our morning program when our facility was booked for another community event. Back then the original playground structure at Brown Drive Park was removed. Plans for a new one were in the works and we used the location and green space anyways, since it was ideal for our families, while eagerly anticipating the new playground. The response from our families was positive and surveys later that year strongly suggested that LaFF expand its outdoor programming. Today we host 10 outside events and Brown Drive Park has become our home for LaFF Outside. We truly believe that the new play structures constructed by the Kinsmen Club of Ladysmith are a large part of our successful outdoor program.

The great work that the Kinsmen Club of Ladysmith has done to Brown Drive Park and the new playground has provided the community of Ladysmith a much needed space to play for all ages. The playground is spacious, has a large variety of climbing structures, slides, and imagination stations that entertain children and their families for hours. LaFF is grateful to the Kinsmen Club of Ladysmith for all they have done for children and their families and we are honored to call Brown Drive Park home for LaFF Outside. The Kinsmen club of Ladysmith have successfully given the community a safe, accessible, and inviting environment for all to enjoy.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacquie Neligan', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Jacquie Neligan
Executive Director

Kin Park/Brown Drive Playground Ladysmith, B.C.



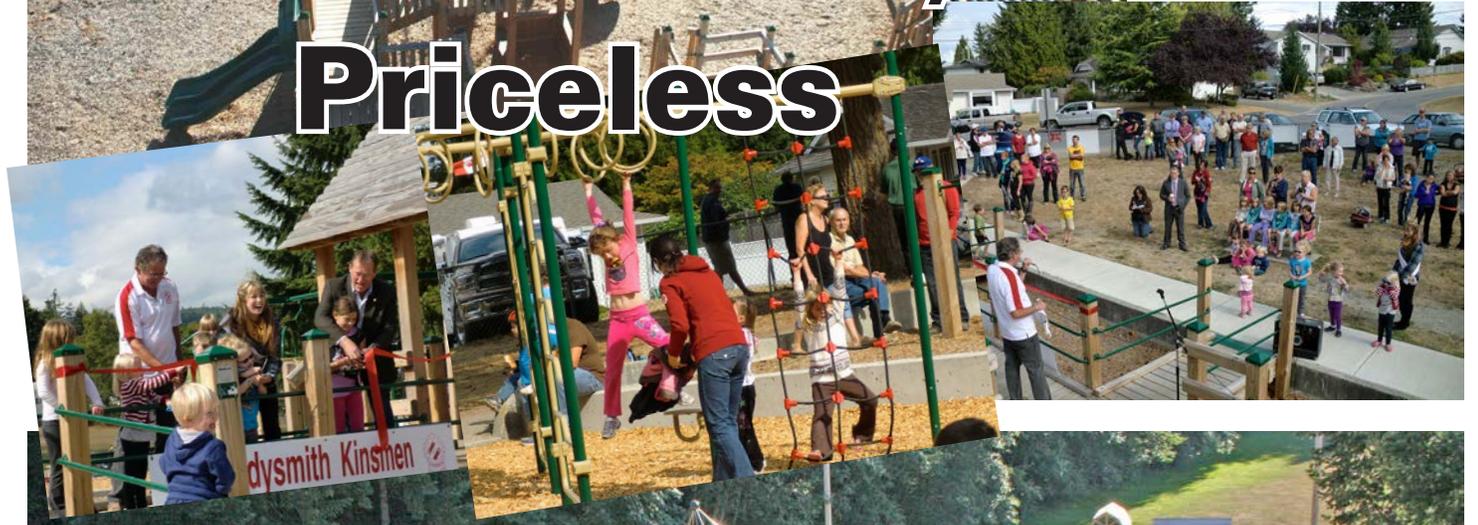
... and this is what Kinsmen do!!!

Value - \$240,000

Hours - 3200

Value to the community

Priceless



*and every day, as a Kinsmen,
you can drive by the
playground and know that
you were a part of this and
you can be proud!!!*